

more Pepper Hill, Louvainmont, the crest of Hill 272, which commands Fosse Wood, north of Louvainmont, as well as the important works at Harcourt, west of Louvainmont, the village of Vaux, and if possible the village of Bezonvaux, most of whose houses are in the woods. The church of this village is on the southern slope of Hill 272, upon the other side of which lies the village of Ornes, one of the first towns carried by the Germans at the beginning of their victorious advance.

Promptly at 10 A. M. the five attacking divisions, each of which covered a front of one and one-quarter miles, advanced behind the screen fire of guns of all calibers. They advanced rapidly into the German trenches. The German troops in these positions, surprised by the suddenness of the attack, offered comparatively little resistance.

In the village of Vacherauville, where the Germans had installed a quantity of machine guns, the struggle was sharp, but none the less short. To the east the French formations, charged the slopes of Hill 272, carrying all before them. As they rushed to the attack the soldiers cheered, and from time to time the machine guns, roared by the strong-towered pillboxes, could be heard above the din of the cannon.

With Vacherauville and Pepper Hill lost, it became evident to the Germans that resistance would be futile, and they retired in fairly good order. On the Vacherauville-Bastment road French troops suddenly appeared in the rear of the Germans. The French had crept along a small ravine running from Pepper Hill to this road. On seeing the French the Germans backed, throwing away rifles, knapsacks and pouches. From the top of the hill the French could see them running. Shouting with joy, they dashed after them.

Half an hour later the French reached the extremity of the Louvainmont crest, close to the village of the same name. There they joined hands with the formations which had started from Harcourt and had progressed almost as rapidly along the eastern side of Pepper Hill and the Bras-Louvainmont road. Louvainmont was stormed out of hand and a large contingent of prisoners was rounded up. By this time the Germans were surrendering freely all along the line, and the communication trenches were choked with prisoners going to the rear.

#### GERMANS DRIVEN BACK BY INTENSITY OF THE ATTACK.

East of Louvainmont another division reached the Louvainmont-Ansanne road. South of the angle formed by this road at the southeastern horn of Fosse Wood a sharp tussle took place for possession of Hill 273, but here again the Germans went down before the vigorous efforts of their assailants, abandoning the ground and leaving many dead and several hundred prisoners. The advance swept on over Hill 273 as far as Chambray Farm, at the other edge of Fosse Wood, and carried it.

Northeast of Douaumont the advance of the French troops was equally rapid. The Woods of La Baucelle and Haesoulle and the Harcourt position were carried successively. Harcourt, completely demolished by shell fire, could give no support to the German formations which fell back upon it in disorder. All the woods north of the work were occupied by the French, who pushed on as far as the village of Bezonvaux.

Everywhere the French had shown splendid form, and nothing could stop them. Nothing went wrong to interfere with their plans. By 11 o'clock twenty guns had fallen into the hands of the French; by noon, forty guns; by 5 o'clock seventy-five had been counted, exclusive of those destroyed.

Having accomplished the task set for him, Gen. Mangin, profiting by the disorganization of the German ranks caused by the abrupt attack, sent out exploring parties everywhere with instructions to destroy as many guns as possible and come back to the newly conquered lines when their work was done. These scouting parties acted promptly and accomplished much. They put out of action most of the guns north of Vacherauville and Louvainmont and in Fosse and Carrière woods.

The French front now follows a line running from the north of Vacherauville along the Vacherauville-Dévant-Chaumont road to the extremity of the Louvainmont crest, passes on the other side of Louvainmont along the fringe of Fosse Wood, then before Chambray Farm, and crossing Carrière Wood, goes to the north of Bezonvaux. South of this village and as far as Vaux the new line follows approximately the Bezonvaux-Dampierre road.

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## RUSSIA REJECTS OFFER OF PEACE AND WILL FIGHT ON

Duma Passes Resolution Favoring a Categorical Refusal by Allied Governments.

### MUST CRUSH GERMANY Calls Berlin Proposal a Fresh Proof of the Weakness of the Enemy.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—The Duma refuses unconditionally to consider peace proposals at this time.

Asserting he spoke with the express authority of the Duma and in agreement with Russia's allies, Mr. Pokrovsky, newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, told the Duma members Russia would make no peace until her enemies had been crushed.

"All Russia," he said, "will rally more closely around its august sovereign, who declared at the very beginning of the war that he would not make peace until the last enemy soldier had left our country and for the general collaboration which constitutes the only sure means of arriving at the end we all have at heart, namely, the crushing of the enemy."

"The Russian Government repudiates with indignation the mere idea of suspending the struggle, thereby permitting Germany to take advantage of the last chance she will have of subjecting Europe to her hegemony."

Following this speech the Duma passed a resolution declaring it "unanimously favors a categorical refusal by the allied Governments to enter, under present conditions, into any peace negotiations whatever. It considers the German proposals are nothing more than fresh proofs of the weakness of the enemy and a hypocritical act from which the enemy expects no real success, but by which it seeks to throw upon others the responsibility for the war."

### BRITAIN WILL INSIST ON FULL REPARATION, SAYS CABINET MINISTER

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The speech delivered last night by Arthur Henderson is being commented on as more specific in regard to the peace proposal of the Central Powers than any other utterance from a responsible Government source. Mr. Henderson is one of the five members of the War Cabinet which has just been formed and has supreme authority in regard to the general conduct of the war. He defined the reparation which Andrew Bonar Law declared was still the policy of the Government as being "reparation for all that Belgium, France, Serbia and Poland have suffered."

Mr. Henderson's statement that Great Britain entered the war "in defense of small nationalities" was taken as an indication that the defense of small nationalities would be one of the essentials of security for the future to which Mr. Bonar Law referred at length.

One of the foremost diplomatic authorities of England and America said to-day that the trend of public and governmental sentiment thus far had shown that three courses were open:

First—Categorical refusal to negotiate, on lines similar to the position assumed by the Russian Duma.

Second—Refusal to negotiate and a statement of the essential aims and purposes of the allies in order to place their position rightly before the world.

Third—A request for Germany's terms, which would be expected to disclose to the allies that these terms were impossible of acceptance.

It was the view of this authority that British sentiment had not yet crystallized as to which one of these three courses should be adopted.

### BIG GUN DUELS RAGE ON MACEDONIAN FRONT

Great Aerial Activity Is Reported by the War Office in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 15.—The official report from the Macedonian front reads: "There was intermittent artillery firing Dec. 14 along the entire front, but particularly in the vicinity of Lake Doiran. In the region to the north of Monastir an enemy column was dispersed by our fire."

"There has been much activity on the part of the allied aviators. An enemy airplane has been brought down south of Petrik."

### BRITISH DRIVEN OUT OF BELGIAN TRENCHES

Berlin Reports Success Southeast of Zillebeke and Artillery Fighting at Ypres.

BERLIN, Dec. 15 (by wireless to Rayville).—Violent artillery fighting occurred in Belgium yesterday. It is officially announced Southeast of Zillebeke German troops advanced to the second British line, whose defenders fled.

The War Office also reported an artillery duel in the Ypres and Utschachtelende, temporarily increasing in intensity.

## ROUMANIA LOSES ANOTHER CITY AS TROOPS DRIVE ON

Sofia Reports Invaders Now Hold All of Eastern Wallachia.

SOPIA, Dec. 14.—Occupation of Peretzi was announced in the Bulgarian official statement to-day.

"We have possession of all of Eastern Wallachia," the statement asserted. "The German Allied forces are advancing north of the Jalomniza River."

In Dobruja the statement reported the occupation by Bulgarians of abandoned enemy positions.

BERLIN (via Rayville wireless). Dec. 14.—After indefatigable engagements the left wing of the ninth army in Roumania reached the road from Buzeu to Rimnicu, to-day's official statement reported.

Abandonment by the Russians of their southernmost positions in Dobruja was also announced.

"Two thousand more prisoners were captured in the fighting around this section," the statement continued.

"The Danube army is also irresistibly advancing northeastward."

"The Calmatuloi lowland was forced after fighting by the right wing of the ninth army east of the Beseu River in the sector of that same name."

"Bulgarian, Turkish and German troops in rapid pursuit crossed the line from Coghazli, Cartal and Harzeva."

Best available maps and Gazetteers do not show any Roumanian town named "Peretzi." Probably the Sofia statement means "Peretzi," which is a railroad terminus almost due west from Cernavoda, where previous Teutonic statements have told of the capture of the bridgehead over the Danube.

Peretzi is on one of the branches of the Danube, which at that point separates into a number of different streams, the whole watercourse being very wide in this locality.

### NEW GOVERNMENT'S THREAT ENDS LIVERPOOL STRIKE

Boilermakers Who Quit in Violation of Munitions Act Vote to Go Back to Work.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Central News reports that the striking boilermakers of Liverpool have voted by a large majority to resume work next Monday. Men engaged in urgent Government work were authorized to return this afternoon.

The new British Government adopted a rigorous policy toward the Liverpool strikers who, in violation of the provisions of the Munitions Act, refused for five weeks to work overtime and then quit their posts. Official announcement was made on Thursday that the Government had decided to deal with the situation drastically.

### TRENCH CHANGES HANDS FOUR TIMES IN BATTLE

Austrians Finally Beat Russians in Desperate Fighting—Take Prisoners in Raid.

BERLIN, Dec. 15 (by wireless to Rayville).—The fighting in the Austro-Hungarian troops on the Russian lines west of Lutsk is reported in to-day's army headquarters statement. It reads: "West of Lutsk, after a successful mine explosion, Austro-Hungarian troops issued forth, destroyed hostile trenches and returned, after further work of destruction, with booty and a number of prisoners."

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—Occupancy of a portion of southernmost Russian trenches east of the village of Kozmichki by the enemy following violent struggles was announced in to-day's official report. The fighting was for possession of one of the Russian ambulance trenches. In the combat that followed, this position changed hands four times, the enemy finally retaining a southern portion.

### RUSSIANS BOMBARD BASE OF BULGARS' SUPPLIES

Flour, Mills of Black Sea Port Destroyed—Attacking Squadron Unharmcd.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 15.—Successful bombardment of Balchik by Russian warships was announced in to-day's official statement. Despite attacks by enemy shore batteries, seaplanes and submarines, the Russian attacking squadron was unharmcd.

The bombardment of Balchik, the statement explained, was with a view to destruction of mills supplying the Bulgarians with flour. The first attempt occurred Wednesday. The attacking vessels were fired at in turn "but the enemy gained no result," according to the statement.

Balchik or Balcik is a Roumanian seaport on the Black Sea about fifteen miles north of the important Bulgarian seaport of Varna.

Danish Fisheries Paralyzed by Blockade.

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, Dec. 15 (via London).—The Dagens Nyheder says that the decision of the Entente Allies to discontinue the supply of oil, paraffin, petrol and fishing tackle for Danish fisheries has completely paralyzed the industry.

## TOP PRICE FOR EGGS SET, COULD BE SET BY GOVERNMENT, SAYS FEDERAL BOARD HEAD

Edward N. Hurley Declares Plan in Line with Present Cost of Living Inquiry.

### MUST BE FAIR TO ALL.

Co-operation and Accurate Knowledge as to Cost of Production Needed.

By Sophie Irene Loeb.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—"Getting right down to the cost of production is the most important move being made by this commission to-day, and to get the maximum price to the consumer for the very common commodities, is in direct line with this."

This is the opinion of Edward N. Hurley, Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission and one of the most prominent men in the public eye to-day, in view of the trade conditions and the much-talked-of middleman.

Mr. Hurley is one of the men looked upon here by the powers that be as having evolved some sound business principles that, if applied,

"Manufacturers and merchants who are merchandising the farmer's product, shipping their goods over the railroads, depositing their money in the banks, and meeting the payroll of thousands of employees—these, too, should be furnished with data and information regarding their respective industries."

"In order to co-operate intelligently with the manufacturer and merchant, the Government must have these facts."

"The Government's attitude toward business, however, presents a contrast. The trouble has really been one of point of view. Government action has usually been negative, always scattered and seldom constructive."

"Unfortunately, our business men and our Government have been losing valuable time during the past fifteen years in trying to settle the economic and business problems, not by co-operation, not by any scientific method which will bring about results beneficial to our people as a whole, but by resorting to the courts. I know business has been sick, and business has undoubtedly been in a large measure to blame for its illness, but instead of sending for a doctor who could

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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will do much toward reducing the high cost.

When I asked him concerning the possibility of the Government, probably through this commission, setting a maximum price for the most common commodities, the necessities of life, he asked me to name for example what might be designated as such.

After I had suggested such common necessities as bread, milk, butter, eggs, meat and coal, he answered: "Yes, I think it would be feasible, and we are taking the first step in line with this, right now, by a campaign of education among producers in helping them ascertain their actual cost of production."

"While we have not the power in this commission to set maximum prices for common commodities, I believe the Government could create such a power somewhere, if not here, if it were found advisable to do so. First of all the cost must be found, so that the betterment of all may be promoted. For example, business people are waking up to the fact that the welfare of their employees is not a charity, but a good business proposition."

CO-OPERATION IS NEEDED IN SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS.

"More than 600 independent associations of manufacturers, producers and merchants exist in Germany to-day, and have proved to be the backbone of that country's industrial system of that country is honey-combed with about 5,000 subsidiary business organizations."

In foreign trade men think in terms of national competition. In China and in South America the contest is not so much between individual corporations as it is between national industries."

"That I am in favor of co-operation among laboring men and I am in favor of co-operation among business men. Each have common problems which can be solved only by concerted effort. But I am opposed to co-operation among business men which resorts to price fixing, and I am opposed to co-operation among laboring men which resorts to violence. Intelligent co-operation is the only co-operation that can be justified from the point of view of our political and industrial future."

"I have urged upon business men the importance of sound and adequate cost accounting methods in our factories. The importance of this reform will be evident to them before it will be to the laboring men in our industries. It will seem a far cry to laboring men to appeal to them in behalf of sound cost accounting methods. As a rule they look upon this as no concern of theirs. But that is not the case. Cost accounting, after all, lies at the very foundation of efficiency in production. Does not efficiency by increasing the product increase labor's share of that product? Labor as well as capital must be interested in the security and perpetuation of industry. It must realize that no foundation is secure that does not go below the front line."

"Labor is entitled to its share of the products it helps to produce; so is capital entitled to its share. But how are we to know what the share of each is if we do not have accurate cost accounting systems in our factories from which an intelligent balance sheet may be made? A profit cannot be fairly distributed unless we know what the cost of the product is."

"Manufacturers are unfair to themselves, to their workers, and to the public when they continue to conduct their business with an insufficient and inaccurate knowledge of costs."

From the Government the railroad receive statistics giving them a broad view of the transportation situation of the country. The farmer is told the condition of the crops in order to dispose of his surplus products. The Government has jurisdiction over the health of the stock. The banker is furnished details as to the financial condition in the country by the Treasury Department. These and helpful fields of Government activity, and the people of the country are heartily in accord with such work.

SHOULD EXTEND SAME AID TO MANUFACTURERS.

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He is Put in Nomination for Honor by Alton B. Parker, Who Also Ran for Presidency of the U. S.

ALBANY, Dec. 15.—Charles E. Hughes has been named for the Presidency of the New York State Bar Association by the Nominating Committee of that organization. It was announced to-day by the Secretary, Frederick E. Wadhams of this city.

The nomination is equivalent to election. Alton B. Parker is Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The election will be held in Brooklyn Jan. 12 and 13.

Other officers nominated are: Vice Presidents, First Judicial District, James Byrne, New York; Second District, Edgar M. Cullen, Brooklyn; Third District, William J. Roche, Troy; Fourth District, Thomas Spence, Schenectady; Fifth District, William A. Mackenzie, Syracuse; Sixth District, Abraham L. Kellogg, Oneonta; Seventh District, Arthur E. Southam, Rochester; Eighth District, Porter Norton, Buffalo; Ninth District, Charles Philip Easton, New York; Secretary, Frederick E. Wadhams, Albany; Treasurer, Albert Hessberg, Albany.

\$500,000 EXPLOSION IN LLEWELLYN PLANT

Same Place Blown Up by Dynamiter McNamara, for Which He Is Serving Time.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 15.—Fire, said to have resulted from an explosion, caused damage estimated at \$500,000 in the plant of the Llewellyn Iron Works here to-day. The police are investigating. John J. McNamara, former Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, is now serving a sentence in San Quentin Penitentiary for dynamiting this plant in 1910, to which he confessed.

Secret Service Agents Plan Raids on Trouble Makers at the Border.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 15.—Wholesale arrests of Americans and Mexicans here and at other points along the border, accused of breach of the neutrality laws in fomenting or aiding the revolutionary actions of different factions in Mexico, were reported by United States Secret Service agents.

Members of the various revolutionary factions are now being hunted by this Government's agents, but action is held up pending ratification of the American-Mexican mediation protocol.

Wife of Noted Electrical Inventor Dies.

LYNN, Mass., Dec. 15.—Mrs. Charles J. Vanderpool, widow of the inventor who perfected the trolley car and invented the arc lamp and several other electrical appliances, died here to-day at her home, No. 20 Nichols Street. She leaves four daughters. One is the wife of Congressman Michael P. Thayer. The others are Mrs. John P. Grimm, Mrs. Joseph C. Phelan and Mrs. John T. Wogan, and a son, Henry W., all of Lynn.

Crowd in Panic at Motor Truck Fire.

A two-ton motor truck caught fire from a leak in the gas tank at Third Avenue and Fifty-ninth Street to-day. A large crowd gathered to watch John Harold, a fireman who fought the blaze with hand extinguishers and snowballs. The crowd scattered in panic, however, when somebody shouted that the tank was about to explode. There was no explosion, but the truck was destroyed.

Women Facilitate To Oppose Universal Training.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—A subcommittee of the Senate Committee on military affairs on Monday will begin holding public hearings to discuss universal military training. Several women peace advocates and Charles T. Hallinan, Editorial Director of the American Union of Democracy, today asked to be heard.

## GREECE COMPLIES TO EVERY DEMAND THE ALLIES MADE

Transfer of Troops Already Begun—Desire for Maintenance of Friendships.

PARIS, Dec. 15.—An official telegram announcing that Greece had accepted unreservedly the conditions of the allies was received at the Foreign Office at midnight, according to the Petit Journal.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—According to an Athens dispatch to Reuters, Greece has replied to the allies' ultimatum by saying that it accepts the demands made on it as it is desirous of giving another manifest proof of the sincerely friendly sentiments which have always animated it toward the Entente.

The reply says that no hostile movements of troops have ever taken place or been projected, and that the transfer of material northwards will immediately cease. Orders have already been given, it is stated, regarding the movements of troops and war material, and will be carried out as rapidly as possible.

In respect to the attack on British and French marines in Athens on December 1 the Government declares that it desires to give every legitimate satisfaction and refers to its proposals to arbitrate.

The hope that the allied powers will reconsider their decision to continue the blockade which, it says, is straining relations and impressing public opinion.

The reply concludes with the expression of a desire by the Government and people of Greece for a resumption of the excellent traditional confidence which previously existed between Greece and the Entente nations.

HUGHES TO BE PRESIDENT OF STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

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## 14-MONTH OLD STRIKE ON TROLLEY CARS IS OVER

Wilkes-Barre Glad That Tie-Up Costing Nearly \$5,000,000 Is Ended After Long Spell.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Dec. 15.—Wilkes-Barre's fourteen-month-old street car strike came to an end to-day when the strikers voted in favor of a peace proposal that was drawn up by members of the United Mine Workers.

The strike is said to have cost nearly \$5,000,000 in loss of wages and fares. The labor unions of this strongly union city put a boycott on the trolley lines. Cars ran empty for months. They were finally laid up.

To-day's truce was joy when the trolley cars made their appearance and the people eagerly rushed aboard.

## LEFT GOODBY NOTE, THEN SHOT HIMSELF

Harry Morant, Found Dead in Room, Had Lost Customs Job After Twenty-five Years.

Mrs. Jennie Boulett, who owns a boarding house at No. 160 West Seventy-ninth Street, returned from a theatre at 1 A. M. to-day and found on a table in her room this note:

"Goodbye and God bless all my good friends. HARRY MORANT."

"P. S.—Ask my dear old friend, John Coogan, to look after my affairs. He has done so much for me I can never thank him enough."

Mrs. Boulett called in a policeman and they went to the room of Morant, one of her boarders. He was stretched out on a couch in the shape of a dead man, a bullet wound in his right temple. A new revolver lay on the floor.

John Coogan was found at the Elks Club. He said Morant was fifty-eight years old, and after being a Customs House appraiser at the Appraisers' Store for twenty-five years, lost his position six months ago. Since then he had been dependent.

Negotiators Are Busy ON IRISH HOME RULE PLAN

Names of Two Principals at Work Are Known—Pressure on Sir Edward Carson.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Liverpool Post says there is no doubt that negotiations are proceeding for a settlement of the Irish Home Rule question and that the two principal negotiators are well known.

The newspaper says the critical attitude adopted by the Nationalists toward the Government for the creation of which Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty in the last Conservative Government, had been destroyed by a mine and fourteen members of her crew are missing, according to the Aftenposten.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—According to a Lloyd's announcement the crew of the steamer Vala has been landed at the Norwegian steamer Brask, of